

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Douglas County

Kansas · Lawrence · FIPS 20045 · Population 119,094 ·
Crosodo Index #1005*

STATE BASELINE

K.S.A. §65-689(d)(4); no sales cap; no registration; no inspection (upon-complaint); direct sales only; most non-TCS foods allowed

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Great	—	HIGH	2026-05-05

IMPORTANT — NOT LEGAL ADVICE

This report compiles publicly-available statutes, regulations, and county zoning rules into a research reference. It is **not legal advice** and is provided **without warranty** as to accuracy, completeness, or current applicability.

Cottage food law changes frequently. Counties may amend zoning, health departments may issue new permits, and state legislatures may update statutes after the publication date shown above.

Always verify rules directly with your state department of health/agriculture and your county health and planning offices before relying on them for any business or regulatory decision. Consult a licensed attorney for advice specific to your situation.

How to start — 60-second path

Douglas County, Kansas — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

No specific state restriction; standard food safety sanitation practices apply.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Kansas cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- ☐ **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- ☐ **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- ☐ **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- ☐ **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- ☐ **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- ☐ Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- ☐ Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- ☐ Kansas home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Kansas label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

KANSAS: DOUGLAS COUNTY

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Douglas County

Population 119,094 · State baseline: K.S.A. §65-689(d)(4); no sales cap; no registration; no inspection (upon-complaint); direct sales only; most non-TCS foods allowed · **HIGH**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Kansas allows nearly all non-TCS foods for direct consumer sales without registration or inspection. Douglas County (Lawrence) has home-based business regulations with Type 1 and Type 2 categories. Type 1 (lower impact) permitted by right; Type 2 (production for off-site sale) requires biennial registration.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction; standard food safety sanitation practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Douglas County requires home-based business registration for Type 2 businesses (production of materials for sale off-premise, like cottage food). Type 2 businesses must biennially register and pay a registration fee. As of 2025 proposed amendment (unanimously recommended by Lawrence-Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Commission, Dec 2024): Type 1 (lower-impact) would be permitted by right with no registration. Type 2 remains registration-required biennially. Contact Douglas County Zoning and Codes at 785-331-1343 or zoning@dgcoks.gov.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Kansas does not require routine inspections for cottage food. Kansas Admin. Regs. §4-28-33 sets sanitation rules. Complaint-driven investigation possible.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Kansas allows nearly all non-TCS foods for direct consumer sales without registration or inspection. Douglas County (Lawrence) has home-based business regulations with Type 1 and Type 2 categories. Type 1 (lower impact) permitted by right; Type 2 (production for off-site sale) requires biennial registration.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction; standard food safety sanitation practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required per state food safety standards.
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety practices; no mandatory certification under KS cottage food law.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable products. Acidified foods (pickles, salsas), most perishable baked goods, low-acid canned foods, kombucha, and meat jerkies are prohibited. Lab-tested borderline items may be allowed.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Kansas does not require routine inspections for cottage food. Kansas Admin. Regs. §4-28-33 sets sanitation rules. Complaint-driven investigation possible.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Douglas County requires home-based business registration for Type 2 businesses (production of materials for sale off-premise, like cottage food). Type 2 businesses must biennially register and pay a registration fee. As of 2025 proposed amendment (unanimously recommended by Lawrence-Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Commission, Dec 2024): Type 1 (lower-impact) would be permitted by right with no registration. Type 2 remains registration-required biennially. Contact Douglas County Zoning and Codes at 785-331-1343 or zoning@dgcoks.gov .
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Kansas allows direct sales only: home, farmers markets, events, online. No wholesale or retail store sales. Out-of-state sales allowed with additional requirements per KSU Extension.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Type 2 home business: maximum 4 full-time non-resident employees. Restaurants are expressly prohibited.

Relevant county code

Douglas County Zoning Regulations Ch. 12, §12-306-21 (Home-Based Businesses); K.S.A. §65-689(d)(4); Kan. Admin. Regs. §4-28-33

RESEARCH NOTES

County-specific data confirmed from official Douglas County government website (dgcoks.gov). Douglas County has a detailed Type 1/Type 2 home business system. Cottage food production for off-site sale likely qualifies as Type 2 (biennial registration required). A 2025 text amendment was under consideration to streamline Type 1 to permit-by-right. Kansas state law allows most non-TCS foods with no registration. Restaurants are expressly prohibited as home businesses. The `county_planning_url` dgcoks.gov confirmed active. Confidence high: both state law and county zoning rules confirmed from official government sources.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dgcoks.gov/zoning-and-codes/home-business>

<https://www.douglascountyks.org>

<https://www.dgcoks.gov/zoning-and-codes/home-business>

<https://www.dgcoks.gov/zoning-and-codes/feature/2025/01/09/updated-home-based-business-regulations>

<http://dgcoks.gov/zoning-and-codes/zoning>

<https://agriculture.ks.gov/divisions-programs/dairy-food-safety/cottage-food>

https://www.ksrevisor.org/statutes/chapters/ch65/065_006_0057.html

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/kansas/douglas-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Douglas County	Shawnee County	Leavenworth County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction; standard food safety sanitation practices apply.	No explicit state restriction; Kan. Admin. Regs. §4-28-33 sets sanitation rules for exempt establishments.	Not specified in state law; Kan. Admin. Regs. §4-28-33 sets sanitation rules for exempt establishments.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Conditional	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	No	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Kansas allows direct sales only: home, farmers markets, events, online. No wholesale or retail store sales. Out-of-state sales allowed with...	Direct-to-consumer sales at home, farmers markets, online with delivery. Out-of-state sales allowed with additional requirements per KSU Ex...	Direct sales to consumers anywhere in Kansas; out-of-state sales allowed with additional requirements per KSU Extension MF3138 guide.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Yes	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes	Yes	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Kansas allows nearly all non-TCS foods for direct consumer sales without registration or inspection. Douglas County (Lawrence) has home-bas...	No registration, no inspection, no cap. Direct sales only. Non-TCS foods. Some items (acidified foods, oils) prohibited. Some lab-tested it...	Kansas cottage food: no registration, no inspection required. Broad range of non-TCS foods allowed for direct sales to consumers. Some lab...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable products. Acidified foods (pickles, salsas), most perishable baked goods, low-acid canned foods, kombucha, and meat je...	Shelf-stable products stored in sanitary conditions per KAR 4-28-33.	Sanitation rules under Kan. Admin. Regs. §4-28-33 apply.
POPULATION	119,094	178,625	82,050

State context — Kansas cottage food law

Douglas County's rules sit on top of Kansas's state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
K.S.A. §65-657	—
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
Upon-complaint	Yes
INDIRECT SALES	
No — Indirect sales to restaurants, retail stores, or wholesale are not allowed under the exemption; producers needing wholesale or retail channels must obtain a KDA food processing license.	

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **Kansas cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/kansas.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: https://www.ksrevisor.org/statutes/chapters/ch65/065_006_0057.html

State dept cottage food page: <https://agriculture.ks.gov/divisions-programs/dairy-food-safety/cottage-food>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/kansas/>

Questions about Douglas County? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/kansas/douglas-county-discuss

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Douglas County, Kansas. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here

Local cottage food listings, kitchen rentals, co-packer referrals, and community events — post yours on Crosodo.

crosodo.com/nb/kansas/douglas-county-discuss

Free ad space available

Let us know if you're a non-profit or community organization. Farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and cottage food events near you welcome.

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